

Meeting Record

MPO Technical Committee Meeting

Friday, June 24, 2005

531 Westgate Blvd., Suite 100

Lincoln, Nebraska

MEMBERS AND OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Karl Fredrickson, Randy Hoskins, Larry Worth, Virendra Singh, Mike Brienzo (representing Roger Figard), Public Works/Utilities; Marvin Krout, David Cary, Planning; Marc Wullschleger, Urban Development; Don Thomas, Doug Pillard, County Engineering; Rich Ruby, Ron Schlautman (representing Steve McBeth), James Miller (representing Jim Knott) NDOR; Jon Large (representing John Wood), Lincoln Airport Authority.

OTHERS: Brian Praeuner, Karen Sieckmeyer, Public Works/Utilities; Kent Morgan, Steve Henrichsen, Planning; Phyllis Hergenrader, Friends of Wilderness Park; Steve Burnham, Federal Highway Association.

STATED PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: Technical Committee Meeting

Karl Fredrickson called the meeting to order and roll call was taken.

Agenda Item No. 1 - Review and action on the draft minutes of the May 12, 2005, Technical Committee Meeting.

A motion was made by Don Thomas to approve the minutes, Mark Wullschleger seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 2 - Review and action on the *Lincoln-Lancaster FY 2005-2006 Unified Planning Work Program* for Transportation Planning.

Mike Brienzo stated that Public Works is asking the Technical Committee for review and action on the Draft Fiscal 2005-2006 Unified Planning Work Program. This program is prepared annually and describes work objectives on transportation and comprehensive planning that will be completed in the next year. Input is received from various departments and funding identified according to the major goals set for the year in terms of planning products. The program is developed in cooperation with the City of Lincoln, NDOR, State, Public Transit, and Lancaster County. It is designed to meet federal requirements since we are using it in identifying the use of federal funding for these projects. It discusses priorities for transportation planning, and identifies transportation air quality planning activities as well as other environmental issues that are important. The major categories include: Administration, Data

MPO Technical Committee Record
June 24, 2005

Development, Comprehensive Planning and Subarea Planning activities; The program emphasizes the Long Range Transportation Plan and the comprehensive planning activities beginning this year. The Work Program identifies the transit planning element and the operations element that are required for the funding of transit. Brienzo did receive comments and requests to make some changes to the draft document which will be completed and submitted to the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration for their approval. In addition to the UPWP is a report by the Lincoln Municipal Airport Planning activities. The Airport Authority will be undertaking an Airport Master Plan study and this report will be included in the Final Work Program to identify these activities.

A motion was made by Don Thomas to approve the Work Plan with the Airport Master Plan Study and the listing of grammatical corrections, Larry Worth seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 3. Review and action on a recommendation regarding 2005 Certification that the Transportation Planning Process for the Lincoln Metropolitan Area complies with applicable federal laws and regulations. Recommendation is on the last page of the 2005 Certification Report.

Mike Brienzo informed the committee that the MPO is required to undergo a self-certification process to review the planning processes over the year. Brienzo does a report relating to the committee the specific federal regulations and the general ways they are met. There is no need for corrective action since we are meeting the major issues that are facing the Lincoln MPO Planning area. Brienzo handed out a summary of the Federal Certification Review of Lincoln MPO that took place on May 4th and 5th, 2005. This is a listing that is being developed in a report noting the certification of the MPO transportation planning process and there are no corrective actions identified. The federal certification includes 12 accommodations and 8 recommendations. The final report is in progress with a draft report for review to be reviewed for factual content and comment that is relevant. It will be returned to the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration with a final report being completed. After approval from the Technical Committee, Brienzo will take it to the Officials Committee for their review.

Karl Fredrickson asked if Brienzo produced this report or is this the Federal Highway's? Brienzo commented that he completes this report with input from different agencies in addition to pPublic Works that includes StarTran, Health Department, and Planning. Fredrickson asked since there was no major deficiencies, are there minor ones? The Federal Certification Review does list have a list of recommendations but Brienzo did not see these as great deficiencies but rather as strong suggestions. Fredrickson didn't want it implied that we are doing something wrong and not attempting to fix it. Larry Worth commented that the federal review process has been done this way for quite some time. Brienzo noted that the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit and NDOR required the MPO to simply go to their decision making bodies in a self-certification review and get a statement saying that there is no major deficiencies in the planning process. This is separate from the FHWA and FTA review of the TMA Certification process. Steve Burnham said once FHWA established the TMA Certification process, they have changed their verbiage. Currently, we have corrective actions which the Federal Highway sees as a violation of the law or the regulations. They have recommendations they see as a best practice sort of thing. They don't even talk in major deficiencies anymore but as Worth stated that

***MPO Technical Committee Record
June 24, 2005***

is the verbiage that was given many years ago. Fredrickson would like to change it the phrasing. Burnham suggested the City talk to Mike Bechtal as it might make a difference to him.

A motion was made to approve the report and the recommendation that there are no major deficiencies, seconded by Thomas. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 4 - Review and action on the amendments to the draft FY 2006-2008 and 2009-2011 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The draft TIP was passed at the May Technical Committee and recommended to the Officials Committee. Brienzo stated there are a couple outstanding items that were not on the table at the May meeting. One was the state funding for the South Beltway. This information was included in the packet. This is the breakdown for funding through 2012. It will be placed in the TIP through the year 2011. The other item was State of Nebraska, Section 5310 Projects. There are four new projects for FY 2005-06. They are for partial funding of one 15-passenger van for the Senior Foundation; one 12-passenger van for Region V Foundation; two 15-passenger vans for Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital; and one 12-passenger van for Tabitha Foundation, Inc. The total funding for Madonna needs to be check for accuracy.

With the committee's approval the City would like to put these in the draft TIP before it is taken to the Officials Committee.

A motion was made by David Cary to approve the amendments to the TIP after checking the funds for Madonna, seconded by Ron Schlautman. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 5 - Briefing on the Comprehensive Plan and Transportation Plan Update covering the planning process, draft schedule and planning assumptions.

Randy Hoskins informed the committee that the current Long Range Transportation Plan and Comprehensive Plan that was adopted by the City and MPO was approved in June of 2002. The Federal requirement states that every five years you have to update the TIP. What that means is our current plan would expire in June of 2007. The Transportation Plan Update will be an 18-month process to be completed by the end of 2006. The Long Range Transportation Plan is the basis for programming projects and the development of the Transportation Improve Program. Without a valid Long Range Transportation Plan in place, you cannot use any of the projects listed in the TIP or obtain funding for those projects.

Steve Henrichsen gave a review of the steps to be taken to update the Comprehensive Plan and Long Range Transportation Plan. Henrichsen said the work was divided into six steps.

1. Set up the process and schedule.
2. Take the CIP to the year 2030.
3. Look at different possibilities as we move from 2025 to 2030.
4. Planning Commission to give direction in terms of the transportation element of the

MPO Technical Committee Record
June 24, 2005

Comprehensive Plan.

5. Begin preparing for the new Comprehensive Plan in June of 2006.
6. Bring to the MPO Officials Committee.

A lot of the text and sections in the current plan will be retained or simply updated. Planning and Public Works will review the draft with the MPO Technical Committee. The Planning Commission will have public hearings in the August and September time frame with the idea that it would be recommended to adopt the draft by the Planning Commission. City Council and County Board would have their public hearings on the draft in November/December time frame so that it could be adopted by Thanksgiving 2006 and then the final step would be to bring it to the MPO Officials Committee.

Agenda Item No. 6 - Other topics for discussion.

Steve Burnham handed out the final rule on work zone safety and mobility for Frank Reich. If we need any more of these, please contact Frank.

Meeting adjourned.